

Haydon School



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE LETTER

RWJ/jmp/Headteacher's Update
4 March 2019

Dear Parents

The half term holiday offered Haydon School students three opportunities to travel abroad. I would like to thank all of the staff who gave up their holidays to provide the students with such wonderful opportunities.

Ski Trip to Switzerland

From 15 to 22 February thirty nine students and six staff went to Crans-Montana, Switzerland for the annual ski trip. A large number of students learned to ski for the first time. This trip helped students develop resilience, patience, teamwork and social intelligence. The weather was sunny and the snow was plentiful and students were able to ski every day. Each morning students woke up to stunning views of the Swiss Alps. In the evenings the group took part in a torchlight led walk around a lake, played tennis, badminton, table tennis, went tubing, visited a thermal spa in Saillon, ate chocolate and danced in a disco. Everyone enjoyed themselves and will look back on their trip to Switzerland with fond memories. I would like to thank Mr Clarke for organising the trip.



Iceland

During half term the Science Faculty took twenty nine Year 10 students to Iceland for a fun packed four days. After a 3am start on the first day the party arrived in Reykjavik around 10am and went straight off for a coach tour around the southern peninsula stopping at The Bridge Between Continents on the boundaries of the North American and the Eurasian tectonics plates, where the students 'walked to America' across the bridge and saw many sulphurous vents of the geothermal field. The students were not too impressed with the smell of 'rotten eggs' but were impressed with the wonderful sights. The trip also took in a tour to see the Northern Lights catching a small glimpse of the 'Aurora Borealis'.

The group visited three famous waterfalls including Gullfoss, which is the biggest waterfall in Europe they caught glimpses of the Eyjafjallajokull Volcano made famous for the ash cloud in 2010, and Hekla, which is Iceland's most active volcano. They visited the Lava Centre, an interactive, high tech educational exhibition depicting volcanic activity across Iceland and visited the Secret Lagoon, where they could bath outside in the natural thermal waters. They also had a tour of the Geothermal Power Station and the Great Geysir, which has lent its name to hot springs around the world and is home to Strokkur the most active Geyser that spouts 30 meters into the air. Finally they visited Iceland's most historic site, Pingvellir National Park where again the tectonic plates meet but it is also the site of the world's oldest democratic parliament founded in 930 and offered fabulous views across the open land.

This was an amazing educational experience and one which I'm sure the students will remember in years to come. Thank you to Mrs Brooks for organising the trip.

Recanati - Italy

One Year 12 and four Year 13 students travelled to Italy to join a course "Corsi Di Lingua e Cultura Italiana" in Italy at "Scuola Dante Alighieri". The students explored other cities, including Rome and

Ancona through trips organised by the school in Recanati. The students really enjoyed the trip and it has boosted their confidence particularly with spoken Italian.

School Production – ‘Oliver!’

Next Week on Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 March the School Production of ‘Oliver!’ will be taking place. Students and staff have worked very hard and are currently in the final stages of rehearsals. I am sure it will be a very enjoyable show and encourage as many of you as possible to come along. Details for purchasing tickets are attached to this letter.

Update on Relationship Charter

Over the last few weeks we have been making amendments to our Relationship Charter, we have now completed this and you can view the document on our website.

http://www.haydonschool.com/uploads/document/2_624_relationship-charter-february-2019.pdf

Please take a few moments to read the Charter as it explains the philosophy behind our behaviour policy and how we feel that relationships are at the very core of everything we do here at Haydon.

Mrs Hitchman visited assemblies for Year 7 to 11 over the last few weeks and has had meetings with students, staff and governors on how we can improve behaviour at Haydon School. Students have been reminded of our three simple rules: 'Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe'. These three rules can be linked to everything we do during the day.

Last week we focused on respect, having consideration for others, when moving around the building and ensuring all phones are switched off and placed in bags, so that students are focused on learning. This will also encourage students to use social times to talk to each other and build on their relationships. Students are expected to not have their phones out until they leave the site, please discuss this with your child. Phones will be confiscated from students if they are seen and returned at the end of the day. If this happens a second time, parents will be asked to collect the phone from school.

We will be improving communication between home and school by launching a Parent/Student App in the very near future, so that you will be able to monitor your child's attendance, behaviour and have access to homework reminders and school reports. There will also be information about extra-curricular activities which will all be accessible from a smart phone, tablet or desktop.

Punctuality to Lessons

Punctuality to school in the morning and then to all lessons throughout the day is a vital aspect in the calm running of the school and obviously aids students' progress in the lesson. From Monday 11 March if a student receives three or more late marks in one week they will receive a 30 minute lesson imposition on a Monday with their Year Leader in order to ensure that their punctuality improves in the future. Please take the time to speak to your son/daughter about the importance of ensuring that their punctuality first thing in the morning and subsequently throughout the day to each lesson is as prompt as possible.

R W Jones
Headteacher

Key Dates

Thursday 7 March	Year 12 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 March	School Production – 'Oliver!' – 7pm
Thursday 14 March	Parent Forum – 5.30pm
Thursday 21 March	Year 8 Options Evening
Friday 22 March	Whole School Non-Uniform Day Meningitis Research in memory of Caitlin Baker

This year's school musical is Oliver! Payment for Tickets is now available on parent pay or you can purchase from the box office in March.

Wednesday 13th March 7pm

Thursday 14th March 7pm

Tickets £5

Don't miss out get your tickets today!

